

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim 13 is cancelled.

Claims 1, 7 and 12 were amended to remove non-elected subject matter.

No claims were added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 6 – 8, 10 – 12, 20 and 22 are pending in this application.

Election-Restrictions and Objections to the Claims

Applicants acknowledge the finality of the Restriction Requirement enunciated on pages 2 – 5 of the Office Action. While not acquiescing to the Examiner's position, and simply in an effort to expedite the prosecution of the Application, Applicants have amended claims 1, 7 and 12 to exclude non-elected subject matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the claims set forth on page 5 of the Office Action are respectfully requested.

Terminal Disclaimer

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner has reviewed and accepted the Terminal Disclaimer filed on April 7, 2003.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

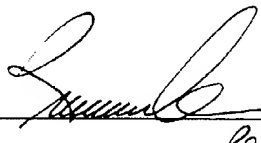
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 29, 2003

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